

**Integrated
Environmental
Curriculum Gr. 3/4 Yr. B**

Topic: Habitat

**Term
5 Week unit**

VELs Links...Level 3 (for VELs links to other integrated domains, see appendix)

Driving VELs ... Science

from Learning Focus:

* As students work towards the achievement of Level 3 standards in Science, they begin to design and conduct experiments to explore contexts drawn from traditional and emerging sciences. They investigate questions and ideas about the natural world and learn to use scientific vocabulary in place of everyday language to describe and explain their observations and measurements. They begin to understand that the design of experiments is directly related to their questions about things and events. They learn to describe evidence in support of simple scientific ideas.

* Students investigate changes they observe; for example, day becoming night, using brakes to stop a bicycle hitting a gate, seed germination and plant growth, and the regeneration of forests after a bushfire.

* They investigate natural processes that change the environment over short periods of time (tsunami, drought, floods) and long periods of time (weathering and erosion). Students are introduced to the concept of a sustainable environment and their role in contributing to it; for example, involvement in local litter programs and recycling at home and at school.

from Standards

Science knowledge and understanding

* Students identify the actions of forces in everyday situations.

* Students identify forms of energy and energy transformations in the everyday world.

* They use appropriate scientific vocabulary to describe and explain their observations and investigations.

* Students describe natural physical and biological conditions, and human influences in the environment, which affect the survival of living things.

Science at Work

* At Level 3, students plan, design, conduct and report collaboratively on experiments related to their questions about living and non-living things and events. They select and use simple measuring equipment, use a range of appropriate methods to record observations, and comment on trends and investigations.

Basic Understandings:

1. Change happens over time.
2. Biodiversity is a range of living things.
3. Biodiversity is essential to our environment
4. We are all stewards of the environment and have the responsibility to preserve it.
5. Frogs are indicators of a healthy environment and are an important part of our local ecosystems